empowers them to introduce new programmes. It is, therefore, left to the individual UTs to decide whether they would also like to introduce such degree programmes.

Rescheduling entrance test for UTs

2853. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Indian Institute of Technology have been requested to reschedule their entrance tests because, as per Delhi School Principals, the entrance exams, are not only disturbing the school's schedule, but also the students' study pattern;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government on their request; and

(c) by when the schedule of entrance examinations for UTs is likely to be changed, as asked for by the principals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Reforms in the entrance test for admission to UTs is a continuous process which takes into consideration suggestions received from various quarters from time to time. Appropriate decisions in this regard are taken by the IIT Council, under the Indian Institute of Technology Act, 1961.